40¢
ALL NEW!
NO. 317
NOV.

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BAT MAN

I'VE PULLED OFF THE *CRIME OF THE CENTURY* -- AND IT'S *TOO LATE* FOR *BATMAN* TO STOP ME!

DICK GIORDANO

IT'S YOUR *FAVORITE* BAT-VILLAIN, BACK TO TRY

"The RIDDLER'S 1,001 CLUE CAPER!"

C-149

YOU'VE GOT TO BUILD 'EM TO BELIEVE 'EM!

NEW

It digs! Claw blade scoops and carries – just like a real bulldozer.

It lifts! Rear controls raise and lower claw blade.

It moves! With brand-new machined track treads.

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Set 950

Set 955

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Set 952

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ORPHANED AS A CHILD WHEN HIS PARENTS WERE *MURDERED* BEFORE HIS EYES, *BRUCE WAYNE* HAS TRAINED HIMSELF TO WAGE RELENTLESS WAR AGAINST CRIME AS THE DREAD *AVENGER OF THE NIGHT*...

BAT MAN

GOTHAM CITY, BEWARE! THE PRINCE OF PUZZLERS IS *BACK* AGAIN -- WITH SOME SHOCKING NEW *ANSWERS* TO SOME VERY OLD *RIDDLES!*

CAN THE DYNAMIC DUO *SOLVE* THE RIDDLER'S SHATTERING SECRET BEFORE IT'S *TOO LATE?*

THE ANSWER TO *THAT* AND MANY *OTHER* CURIOUS QUESTIONS WILL BE FOUND IN...

The 1,001 Clue Caper or why did the RIDDLER cross the road?

LEN WEIN WRITER	IRV NOVICK & FRANK McLAUGHLIN ARTISTS	
GLYNIS WEIN COLORIST	BEN ODA LETTERER	PAUL LEVITZ EDITOR

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IN THE LONG, LONELY HOURS BEFORE *DAWN*, BUSINESS GOES ON AS USUAL HERE AT *GOTHAM CITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS*...

POLICE HEADQUARTERS

--AND DR. DEXTER TELLS ME *CRAZY-QUILT* IS HOPELESSLY *INSANE!*

FRANKLY, IT COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED TO A MORE *DESERVING* GUY!

BATMAN-- *WAIT!*

WHAT'S *UP* SGT. HAINER?

JUST GLAD I CAUGHT YOU BEFORE YOU *LEFT!*

THIS PACKAGE WAS *HAND-DELIVERED* FOR YOU A FEW *HOURS* AGO!

HMMMM-- NO *RETURN ADDRESS!* LET'S SEE WHAT'S *INSIDE!*

OH, *NO*-- NOT *AGAIN!?!*

WHAT *IS* IT, BATMAN?

WHAT'S *WRONG?*

HERE--TAKE A LOOK FOR *YOURSELF!*

1001 RIDDLES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Have fun! I know I will! The Riddler!

THAT SCREWBALL DOESN'T WASTE ANY *TIME*, DOES HE? I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HE WAS OUT OF *JAIL!*

TAKE MY *WORD* FOR IT, PAL--HE *WON'T* BE OUT FOR *LONG!*

YES--IT'S A GOOD THING HE'S *COMPELLED* TO GIVE YOU *RIDDLE-CLUES* BEFORE HE CAN COMMIT HIS *CRIMES!*

THAT WON'T HELP US *THIS* TIME, COMMISSIONER!

BY SENDING ME THIS *BOOK*, THE RIDDLER HAS SUPPLIED ME WITH CLUES TO HIS NEXT *1001* POSSIBLE CRIMES *AT ONCE!*

THEN WHAT *DO* YOU PROPOSE TO *DO*, BATMAN?

THERE'S NOTHING MUCH WE *CAN* DO--EXCEPT WAIT FOR THE RIDDLER TO MAKE HIS *FIRST MOVE!*

AND KNOWING THE WAY THAT CRACKPOT *WORKS*, I DON'T THINK WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT *LONG!*

WITH A WHISPERED ROAR, THE SLEEK *BATMOBILE* ROCKETS AWAY INTO THE RAPIDLY-FADING *DARKNESS*...

WHILE, ON A DESERTED COUNTRY ROAD SEVERAL MILES *OUTSIDE* OF GOTHAM, A BATTERED OLD FLATBED TRUCK *PAUSES* FOR A MOMENT BEFORE AN UNEXPECTED *OBSTACLE* IN ITS PATH--

DETOUR

--THEN OBEDIENTLY *FOLLOWS* THE POINTING *ARROW*--

--TO FIND THAT THE ROAD *AHEAD* IS EQUALLY *IMPASSABLE*--

--AND THE WAY *BACK* HAS BEEN CUT OFF MOST *EMPHATICALLY!*

RATATATATATAT

OKAY, SUCKER-- YOUR *CARGO* OR YOUR *LIFE!*

YOU WANNA STEAL MY *CHICKEN* TRUCK?!?

MISTER, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE *DOING!*

WRONG, FRIEND -- I KNOW *PRECISELY* WHAT I'M DOING! NOW GET *OUT* OF THERE!

GIVE ME A *BREAK*, RIDDLER -- AT LEAST TELL ME *WHY* YOU'RE ROBBING ME?

THAT, AS THEY SAY, IS FOR ME TO *KNOW*-- AND YOU TO *FIND OUT!*

NOW I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU-- WHY ARE YOU LIKE A TWELVE-INCH RULER?

I--I DON'T KNOW--!

WHY--?

?

?

BECAUSE, AS OF THIS MOMENT -- YOU'RE BOTH AFOOT!

HA HA HA HA HA

CUT: TO THE SUBTERRANEAN LABYRINTH THAT IS THE LEGENDARY BATCAVE...

FIND ANYTHING INTERESTING, DICK?

ABSOLUTE ZERO, BRUCE.

I WAS HOPING I COULD PULL A SOLID LEAD OUT OF THIS BOOK!

MIND IF I TAKE A LOOK, CHUM?

NOT AT ALL. I'VE BEEN STARING AT THIS SO LONG, I'M STARTING TO GET EYESTRAIN!

SOMETIMES, DICK, IN SEARCHING FOR SUBTLETIES --ONE CAN OVERLOOK THE OBVIOUS!

DID YOU NOTICE THIS STAMP IN THE BACK?

PROPERTY of GOTHAM STATE PRISON

GOOD GRIEF-- I CAN'T BELIEVE I WAS THAT SHORT-SIGHTED!

WHATEVER THE RIDDLER'S SCHEME IS, HE MUST'VE PLANNED IT WHILE HE WAS STILL BEHIND BARS!

I'D BETTER HEAD ON OVER TO GOTHAM PRISON--AND SEE WHAT I CAN DIG UP!

YOU DO THAT, PAL.

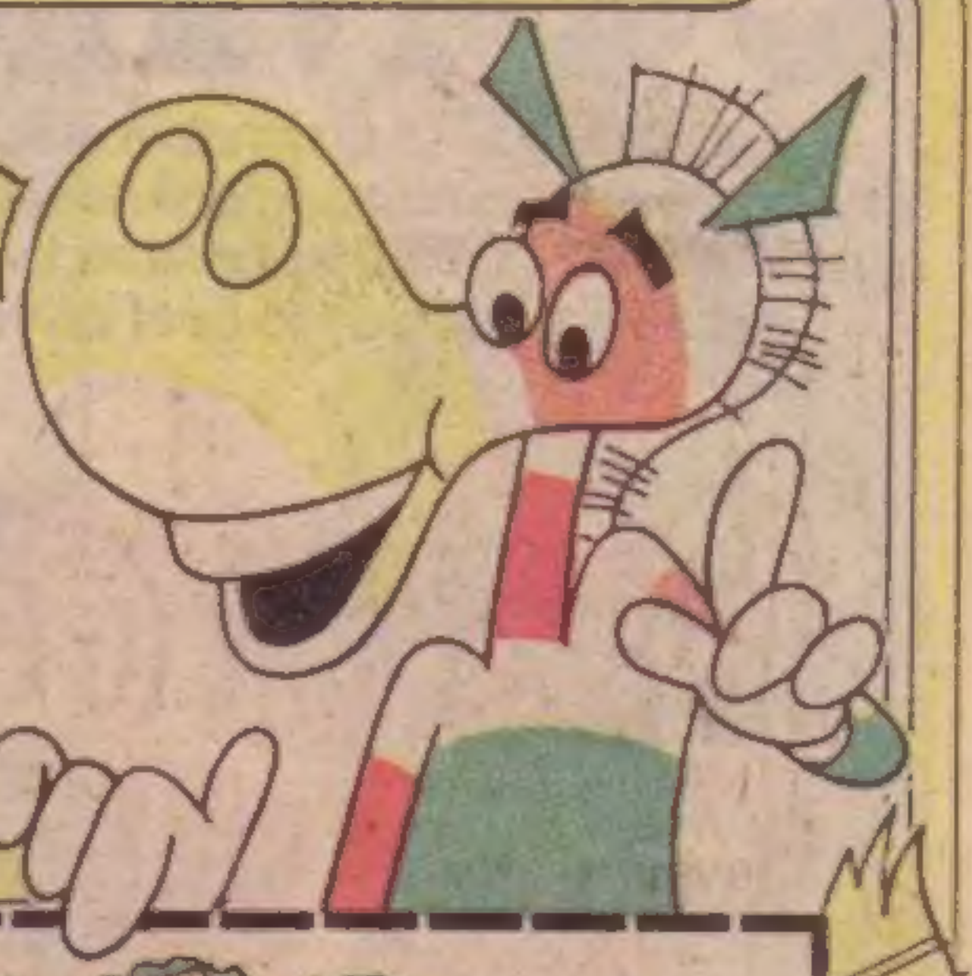
IN THE MEANTIME, BRUCE WAYNE STILL HAS A BUSINESS TO RUN!

4

CONTINUED ON 35TH PAGE FOLLOWING

FRUIT STRIPE® GUM SWEEPSTAKES

Hey kids, win a trip to
Walt Disney World Vacation Kingdom
or one of
1,110 other prizes.



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WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

1. Correct answers not necessary for entry.
2. No purchase necessary. To enter, print your name, address and zip code on the official entry blank or on a plain 3x5 piece of paper. Each entry must include two (2) outside wrappers from either Fruit Stripe Gum or Fruit Stripe Bubble Gum or print the words "Fruit Stripe Gum means Fruit Stripe Fun" on a 3x5 piece of paper.
3. Enter as often as you like, but each entry must be mailed separately. Entries must be postmarked no later than Oct. 31, 1979, and received by Nov. 10, 1979.
4. Winners will be determined in a random drawing conducted by Ventura Associates, an independent judging organization whose decisions are final. All prizes will be awarded. Odds of winning are dependent upon the number of entries received.
5. No substitute or exchange for prizes offered. All federal, state and local laws apply. Void in Howard County, Maryland, and wherever prohibited or restricted by law. Liability for taxes is the sole responsibility of the prize winner.
6. Sweepstakes open to U.S. residents under 16 years of age on date of entry only. Not open to employees and their families of Life Savers, Inc., their affiliates, advertising and judging agencies.

Mail entries to:
Fruit Stripe Gum Sweepstakes
P.O. Box 7995
Westbury, New York 11592

Please Print

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

GRAND PRIZE: A trip for 4 to Walt Disney World Vacation Kingdom, including airfare and hotel for 5 days/4 nights.

SECOND PRIZE: **10 Ten Speed Bicycles.**

THIRD PRIZE: **100 Transistor Radios.**

FOURTH PRIZE: 1,000 Boxes* of Fruit Stripe Bubble Gum.

*20 packs per box

Regular and Bubble Gum

Fruit Stripe® Gum

means

Fruit Stripe Fun

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Dennison

AND SOMETIME LATER, IN THE EXECUTIVE SUITE OF THE GLEAMING WAYNE FOUNDATION...

I'M GLAD WE'VE FINALLY FOUND A FEW MINUTES TO *TALK*, MR. FOX.

YOU LOOK *CONCERNED*, BRUCE. IS SOMETHING *WRONG*?

NOT WITH *ME*, LUCIUS.

IT'S *YOU* THAT I'M *WORRIED* ABOUT.

YOU SEEM *OUT OF SORTS* LATELY. I WAS JUST WONDERING HOW YOU'RE *FEELING*.

CAN'T TELL BRUCE I'M WORRIED ABOUT MY MEETING WITH *GREGORIAN FALSTAFF* TONIGHT --CAN'T RISK GETTING HIM *INVOLVED*!

I'LL HAVE TO COME UP WITH *ANOTHER* REASON--!

IT'S--AH--MY SON *TIMOTHY*, BRUCE HE AND I HAVEN'T EXACTLY BEEN *GETTING ALONG* LATELY.

I'M ALSO FEELING BAD ABOUT THE *TROUBLE* I ACCIDENTALLY STIRRED UP BETWEEN YOU AND *SELINA KYLE*!

OH, IS *THAT* ALL IT IS?

WHAT A *RELIEF*.

YOU JUST LEAVE THE HOT-TEMPERED MS. KYLE TO *ME*, LUCIUS--

--BUT IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO TO *HELP* YOU WITH YOUR SON, PLEASE *TELL* ME.

I APPRECIATE THE *OFFER*, BRUCE--

--BUT I DOUBT *ANYONE* COULD HELP ME *NOW*!

WHILE, WITHIN THE GRIM, GREY CONFINES OF *GOTHAM STATE PRISON*, AN INQUIRY OF A VERY *DIFFERENT* STRIPE *MAY BE* OVER BEFORE IT IS TRULY *BEGUN*...

I'M SORRY YOU CAME ALL THE WAY FOR *NOTHING*, ROBIN--BUT I DON'T THINK *JAKE HAMMER* WILL BE MUCH *HELP* TO YOU!

HE'S BEEN *SEMI-COMATOSE* EVER SINCE HE WAS *WOUNDED* WHILE ATTEMPTING TO *ESCAPE* WITH HIS CELLMATE *EDWARD NIGMA*!

EDWARD NIGMA... ALIAS *THE RIDDLER*!

THAT'S WHY I'M *HERE*, WARDEN!

I'VE GOT TO TRY TO *TALK* TO HAMMER--FIND OUT WHAT HE *KNOWS* ABOUT THE RIDDLER'S *PLANS*--!

YOU'RE WELCOME TO *TRY*, ROBIN--BUT I WOULDN'T EXPECT *MUCH!*

HAMMER? HAMMER, I WANT YOU TO *LISTEN* TO ME VERY *CLOSELY!*

I WANT YOU TO *LISTEN*-- AND I WANT YOU TO *TALK!*

L-LISTEN... T-TALK...

THAT'S RIGHT, HAMMER-- *TALK!* TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT *THE RIDDLER!*

R-RIDDLER...?

RIDDLE...?

I KNOW... A RIDDLE... VALUABLE RIDDLE...

GO ON, HAMMER--WE'RE *LISTENING!*

WHAT'S BLACK... AND WHITE... AND RED... ALL OVER...?

ANSWER... HEH... HEH... ANSWER IS... A KILLER...

HAMMER?

I'M *SORRY*, ROBIN--BUT THAT'S ABOUT ALL YOU'RE GONNA *GET OUT* OF HIM FOR NOW.

HE'S *UNCONSCIOUS* AGAIN!

BLAST!

THERE WAS SO MUCH *MORE* I NEEDED TO *KNOW!*

DID HE TELL YOU *ANYTHING*, ROBIN? WHAT WAS HE *MUTTERING* ABOUT?

I DON'T *KNOW*, WARDEN --BUT YOU CAN *BET* I INTEND TO *FIND OUT!*

WHILE, ON A WELL-WORN *LOADING DOCK* ON GOTHAM'S LOWER WEST SIDE, IN THE VERY HEART OF THE SPRAWLING *WAREHOUSE DISTRICT*...

MAN, THESE BUNDLES ARE *HEAVY!*

THAT AIN'T *SURPRISIN'*-- ALL THINGS CONSIDERED!

THESE OLD *MAGAZINES* ARE WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN--

--*HUH?* WHAT'S *HE* DOIN' HERE?

HEY, *DRIVER*-- YA BROUGHT THAT RIG AROUND TO THE WRONG *BAY!*

GET THAT GARBAGE SCOW *OUTTA* HERE, WILL YA?

BUT THE ONLY *RESPONSE* THE BURLY LABORERS RECEIVE IS--WELL, *OUTRAGEOUS*, TO SAY THE VERY *LEAST*...

WHAT IN JUMPING BLUE BLAZES--?!?

THAT TRUCK IS FULL'A *CHICKENS!?!*

JUST *RETURNING* WHAT I BORROWED FROM A *FRIEND* OF YOURS THIS *MORNING*, CHUMPS!

NOW RIDDLE ME *THIS*-- WHAT IS MOST LIKE A *HEN* STEALIN'?

ANSWER--A *COCK ROBBIN'!*

HEY--HE'S TAKIN' THE *MAGAZINES!?!*

AND WHAT'S THE *DIFFERENCE* BETWEEN A *MAGAZINE* AND A *BIG MOUTH* LIKE YOU?

SIMPLE-- YOU CAN *SHUT UP* THE MAGAZINE!

IT'S TIME FOR ME TO TAKE MY *LEAVE*-- BUT I HAVE ONE LAST *RIDDLE* FOR YOU TO PONDER!

WHAT HAS *FOUR WHEELS* AND *FLIES*?

THAT'S *EASY*, RIDDLER--A *GARBAGE TRUCK!*

LIKE THE ONE THEY'RE GONNA CART YOU *AWAY* IN!

GUN HIM! WE CAN'T LET HIM *ESCAPE* WITH THOSE *BUNDLES!*

BAM! BAM!

DON'T *SWEAT* IT! THERE AIN'T NO WAY HE CAN *ESCAPE* US IN THAT CLUMSY OLD *RIG!*

BAM!

AS IF ON *CUE*, THE RIDDLER CHOOSES THAT PRECISE *INSTANT* TO FLIP A SPECIAL DASH-BOARD *SWITCH*--

CLICK!

--AND *SUDDENLY*...

HEY-- HE'S *JETTISONED* THE TRUCK CHASSIS!?!

WHEN I SAID "*FLIES*"-- THAT'S PRECISELY WHAT I *MEANT!*

THIS BABY CAN DO *180 MPH* WITHOUT EVEN *TRYING!*

THAT VAN'S GOT SOME KIND'A *ROCKET ASSIST!* IT MOVES LIKE IT'S...

..FLYING.

IT'S M'D-AFTERNOON WHEN A WEARY *SELINA KYLE* AT LAST TRUDGES BACK TO HER DOWNTOWN *APARTMENT* AFTER A HECTIC DAY OF *SHOPPING*--

..TO FIND SHE HAS... *COMPANY!*

WANT A HAND WITH THOSE *PARCELS*, PRETTY LADY?

WHO--?!?

OH, IT'S *YOU!* HOW DID YOU GET *IN* HERE?

ONE OF THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING A *MILLIONAIRE*-- I BRIBED THE *DOORMAN!*

I WANTED A CHANCE TO *APOLOGIZE* TO YOU FOR THE WAY I BEHAVED AT *LUNCH* THE OTHER DAY!

ADVERTISEMENT

GREEN LANTERN VS TRICLOPS THREE-EYED KEEPER OF THE CAVE

OKAY, TRICLOPS, YOUR DAYS OF GLUTTONOUS CRIME ARE OVER...OH, NO! MY POWER RING'S RUN OUT. NO ENERGY IN IT!

NOTH NG IN MY STOMACH EITHER, DIM LANTERN. AND YOU'LL FILL IT NICELY.

AS TRICLOPS AND GREEN LANTERN ARE LOCKED IN MORTAL COMBAT, TWO YOUNG CAVE EXPLORERS APPEAR.

LOOK! GREEN LANTERN'S ABOUT TO BE TRICLOP'S DINNER.

LET'S USE OUR *HOSTESS®* *TWINKIES®* *CAKES* TO TEMPT HIM AWAY

SINK YOUR FANGS INTO THESE, TRICLOPS.

I LIKE THE *MOIST SPONGE CAKE.*

I LIKE THE *CREAMED FILLING.*

WELL, I'M OFF TO RECHARGE MY POWER RING.

I'M GLAD TRICLOPS PREFERS *GOLDEN TWINKIES CAKES* TO GREEN LANTERNS.

YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF HOSTESS® TWINKIES® CAKES

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THE CHILLS OF **WINTER** WERE BROKEN BY THIS **EVENT!**

THE ANNUAL JLA-JSA TEAM-UP YOU ALL WAITED FOR! IT'S OUR **GREATEST ADVENTURE!!**

THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPERHEROES

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40

ONE OF OUR GROUP

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On Sale NOW!!

WELL, YOU WASTED YOUR *TIME* --AND YOUR *MONEY*, MR. WAYNE! THERE'S NOTHING YOU COULD *SAY* TO ME THAT I WANT TO *HEAR!*

DON'T SLAM THE *DOOR* ON YOUR WAY *OUT!*

BUT, SELINA, I--

JUST *BEAT IT*, BUSTER!

ALL RIGHT, SELINA, I'M *GOING*-- IF THAT'S WHAT YOU REALLY *WANT!*

I HAD HOPED THAT WE COULD *SMOOTH OVER* OUR LITTLE MISUNDERSTANDING-- BUT OBVIOUSLY, WE *CAN'T!*

AND THAT'S REALLY RATHER *IRONIC* IN A WAY!

WHEN YOU FIRST CAME TO ME AND TOLD ME YOUR CAREER AS *THE CATWOMAN* WAS FINALLY *OVER*, YOU ASKED ME TO *FORGIVE* AND *FORGET* YOUR PAST MISTAKES--

--BUT *YOU'RE* NOT WILLING TO FORGIVE AND FORGET *MINE!*

GOOD-BYE, SELINA.

BRUCE?

BRUCE-- *WAIT!*

FOR *WHAT?*

BRUCE, PLEASE-- COME BACK *IN* AND CLOSE THE *DOOR!*

EVERYTHING YOU SAID IS *TRUE*, BRUCE-- THE PAST ISN'T *IMPORTANT* ANYMORE!

ALL THAT REALLY *MATTERS* IS...THE *FUTURE!*

MAKE THAT *OUR* FUTURE.

GLADLY.

LATER, AS *DUSK* PAINTS THE LUXURIOUS *PENTHOUSE* ATOP THE WAYNE FOUNDATION BUILDING IN SHADES OF GOLD AND CRIMSON...

AND WHERE HAVE *YOU* BEEN ALL AFTERNOON, OH CAPTAIN OF INDUSTRY?

JUST SPENDING SOME TIME WITH *SELINA KYLE*--AH-- SMOOTHING OUT OUR *DIFFERENCES*.

UMMM... SOUNDS LIKE *FUN*.

MR. GRAYSON, YOU DON'T KNOW THE *HALF* OF IT! SHE IS ONE *FASCINATING* WOMAN!

EXCUSE ME SIR--IF I MIGHT *INTERRUPT* FOR A MOMENT?

WHAT *IS* IT, ALFRED?

I WAS MERELY WONDERING IF YOU AND YOUNG MASTER DICK WILL BE STAYING FOR *DINNER* THIS EVENING?

WE'D *LOVE* TO, ALF-- BUT WE *CAN'T*!

ANY REASON IN *PARTICULAR*, PAL?

ASIDE FROM TRACKING DOWN THE *RIDDLER*, I CAN'T THINK OF A ONE! I TALKED TO HIS *CELLMATE* THIS AFTERNOON!

AND I'D LIKE TO *HEAR* WHAT HE HAD TO *SAY*!

SORRY ALFRED-- BUT WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE A *RAINCHECK* ON THAT DINNER!

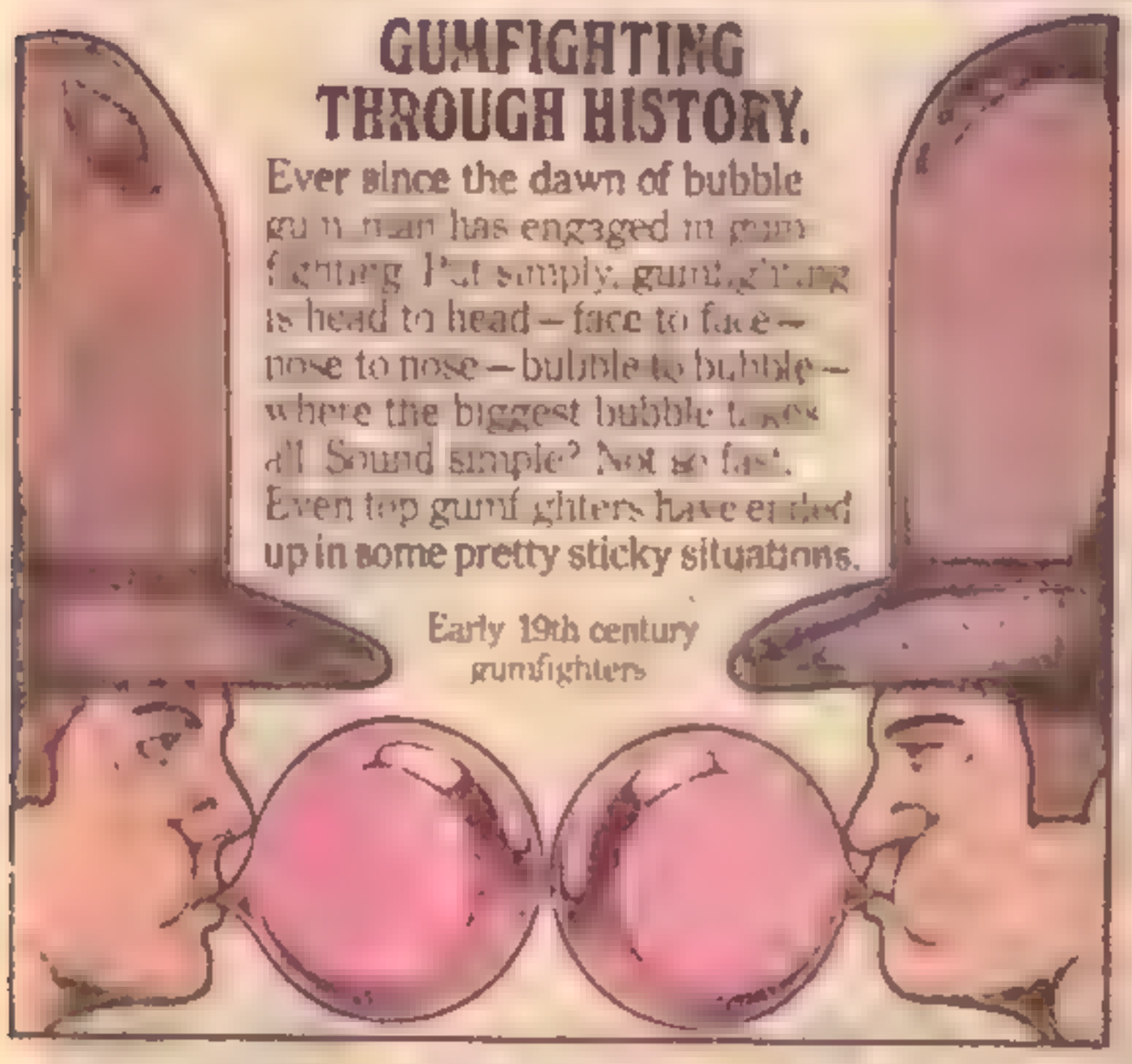
SO WHAT *ELSE* IS NEW? SOMETIMES I WONDER WHY I EVEN *BOTHER*!

GOOD *LUCK*, MASTER BRUCE... MASTER DICK... AND GOOD *HUNTING*!

GUMFIGHTING PRACTICE AND TECHNIQUES.

GUMFIGHTING THROUGH HISTORY.

Ever since the dawn of bubble gum, man has engaged in gum fighting. Put simply, gumfighting is head to head – face to face – nose to nose – bubble to bubble – where the biggest bubble takes all. Sound simple? Not so fast. Even top gumfighters have ended up in some pretty sticky situations.



Early 19th century gumfighters

THE CHEW TO CHOOSE.

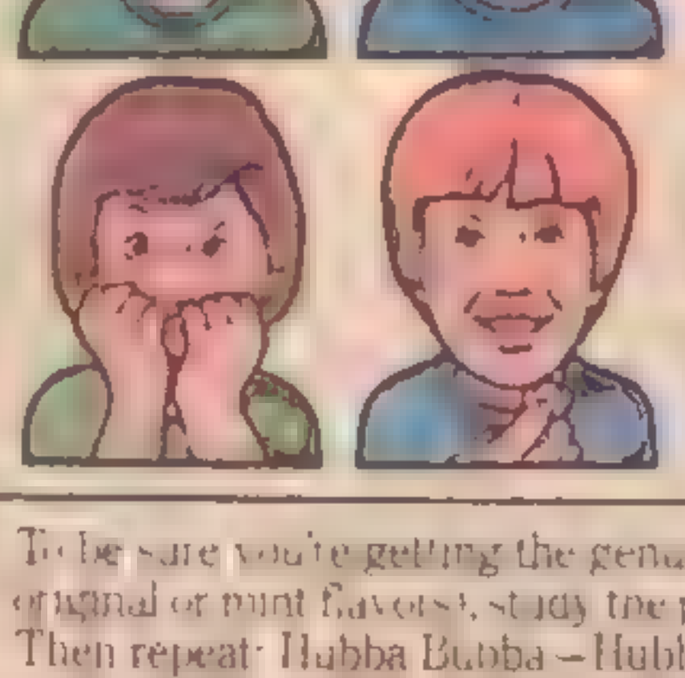
To get you started off on the right foot, we'd like to get you started off on the right bubble gum. New Hubba Bubba Bubble Gum. Soft and juicy Hubba Bubba is the brand new bubble gum with amazing no-stick bubbles™. That's right *no-stick bubbles!* And no-stick bubbles mean you can blow bubbles as big as you want and not have to worry about them sticking to your face. Does Hubba Bubba *really* work? 98.8% of the faces tested said yes.

GUMFIGHT PRACTICE DRILL.

The secret to becoming a great gumfighter is practice, practice, and more practice. And the only gum to practice with is new Hubba Bubba. So pick up a pack and pop a soft, juicy chunk in your mouth. While you're enjoying that great long-lasting Hubba Bubba flavor, proceed with this simple yet effective gumfight drill:

© The Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company

ALL BUBBLE GUMS ARE NOT ALIKE.



The kid on the left is blowing bubbles with another gum. The kid on the right is blowing bubbles with new Hubba Bubba. Note the size of that Hubba Bubba bubble.

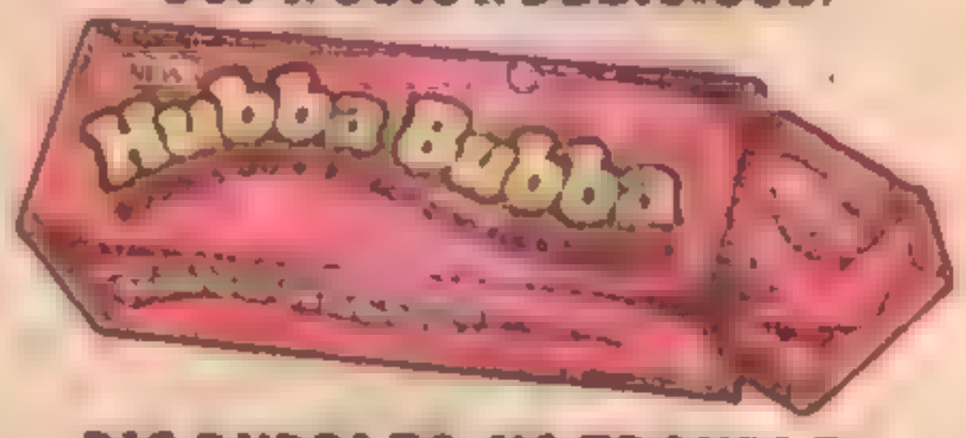
As you see, a sticky situation is developing on the left. But not on the right.

Notice the Hubba Bubba bubble comes right off the face and goes back in the mouth. As for the bubble gum on the left, those are the breaks.

To be sure you're getting the genuine article (Hubba Bubba's original or mint flavors), study the picture below very carefully. Then repeat: Hubba Bubba – Hubba Bubba – Hubba Bubba – Hubba Bubba – Hubba Bubba – Hubba Bubba – Hubba Bubba.

Get some delicious new Hubba Bubba soon and see for yourself. Your bubble troubles are over.

SOFT. JUICY. DELICIOUS.



BIG BUBBLES. NO TROUBLES.

Begin blowing bubble. You will note that Hubba Bubba's amazing formula lets you blow an incredibly large bubble.

When the Hubba Bubba bubble breaks do *not* be alarmed. Hubba Bubba is not your ordinary bubble gum.

Simply remove Hubba Bubba from your face. That's right, simply remove and replace in mouth. Return to step 1.

After you have mastered this basic gumfighting technique, try it out on someone. Remember for a successful gumfight, be sure your opponent is *not* chewing Hubba Bubba Bubble Gum – the soft and juicy bubble gum with amazing no-stick bubbles.

I AM MADAME XANADU! AND I WELCOME YOU TO TAKE AN... UNEXPECTED JOURNEY THROUGH THE... DOORWAY TO NIGHTMARE... WHERE YOU WILL MEET A WEREWOLF HUNTER AMID THE SIGHT AND SOUND OF "MOONLIGHT and LAUGHTER"!

3 CHILLING COMICS IN 1

HOUSE OF SECRETS

DECEMBER, 1978 NO. 154 $1.00

UNEXPECTED

HA HA HA THE CURSE IS WORKING— SHE'LL NEVER UPSTAGE ME AGAIN!

I'M ABEL OF THE HOUSE OF SECRETS® --ALSO IN THIS ISSUE... PRESENTING TALES THAT EVEN SCARE ME!

ON SALE AUGUST 23RD!

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Dennison

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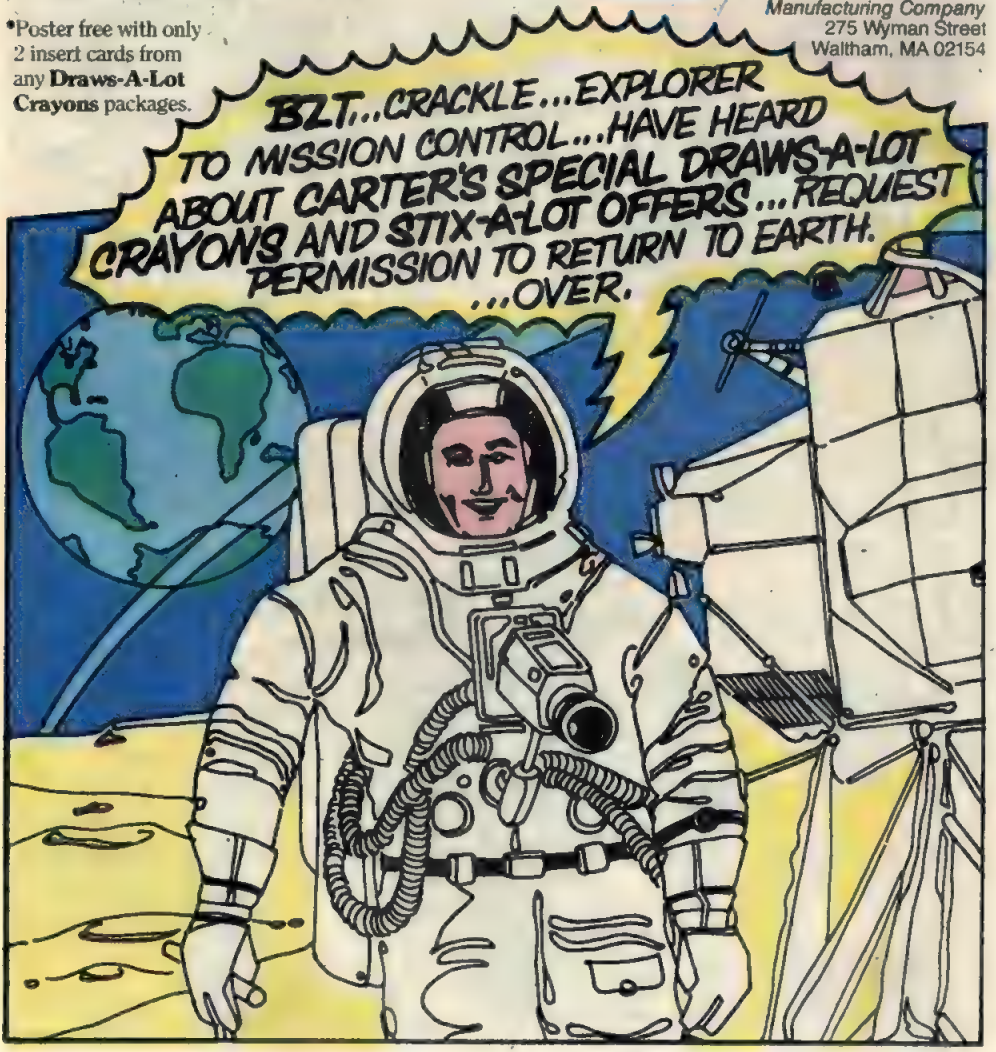
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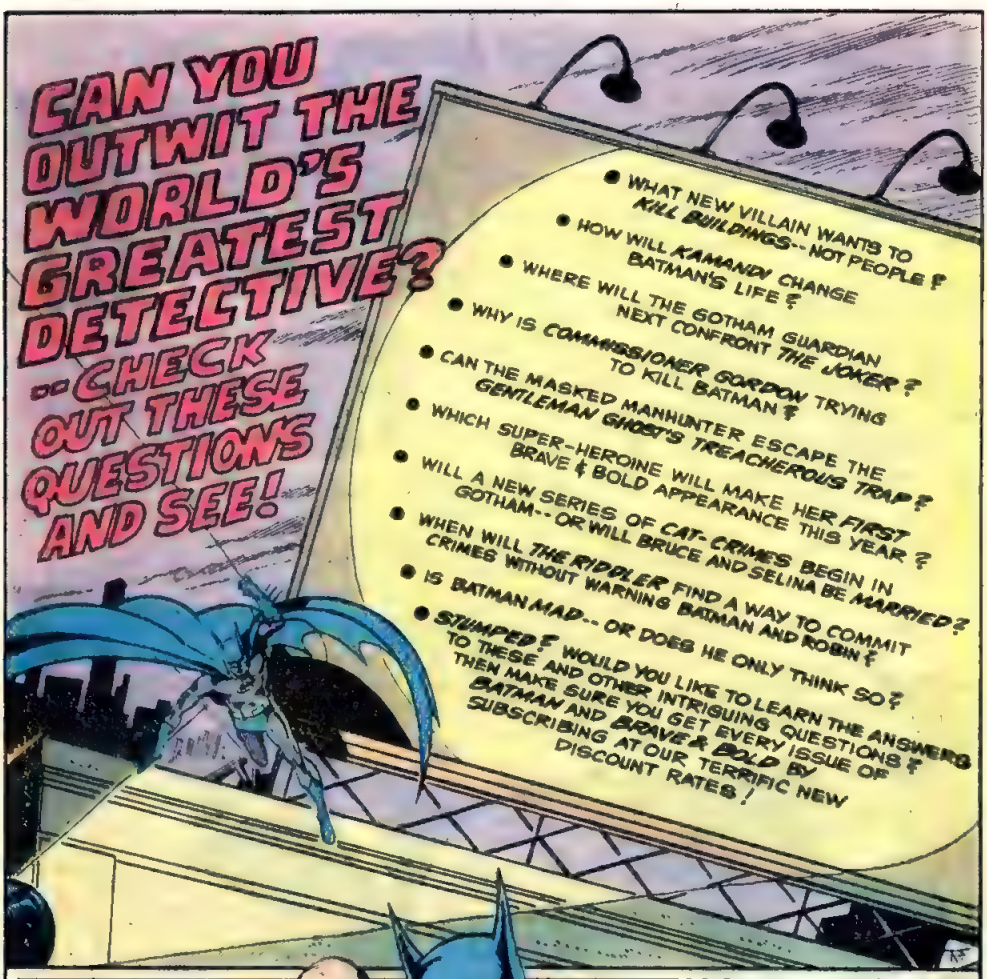
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● WHAT NEW VILLAIN WANTS TO KILL BUILDINGS-- NOT PEOPLE?
● HOW WILL KAMANDI CHANGE BATMAN'S LIFE?
● WHERE WILL THE GOTHAM GUARDIAN NEXT CONFRONT THE JOKER?
● WHY IS COMMISSIONER GORDON TRYING TO KILL BATMAN?
● CAN THE MASKED MANHUNTER ESCAPE THE GENTLEMAN GHOST'S TREACHEROUS TRAP?
● WHICH SUPER-HEROINE WILL MAKE HER FIRST BRAVE & BOLD APPEARANCE THIS YEAR?
● WILL A NEW SERIES OF CAT-CRIMES BEGIN IN GOTHAM-- OR WILL BRUCE AND SELINA BE MARRIED?
● WHEN WILL THE RIDDLER FIND A WAY TO COMMIT CRIMES WITHOUT WARNING BATMAN AND ROBIN?
● IS BATMAN MAD-- OR DOES HE ONLY THINK SO?
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AND MOMENTS LATER, *BENEATH* THE WAYNE FOUNDATION, BACK IN THE CAVERNOUS *BATCAVE*...

--AND THAT'S ALL HAMMER *SAID* BEFORE HE FADED! ANY IDEA WHAT IT MIGHT *MEAN*?

WHAT'S BLACK AND WHITE AND *RED* ALL OVER, EH?

THAT'S ONE OF THE *OLDEST* RIDDLES IN THE *BOOK*!

AND THAT ALSO HAPPENS TO BE THE *ANSWER*!

A *BOOK*... OR A *NEWSPAPER*... OR A *MAGAZINE*!

WHICH TIES IN WITH SOMETHING *ELSE* THAT HAPPENED TODAY!

WHILE I WAS UP AT THE PRISON, THE RIDDLER RAIDED A *MAGAZINE WAREHOUSE*--

--AND GOT AWAY WITH SEVERAL DOZEN *BUNDLES* BOUND FOR FOREIGN *DISTRIBUTION*!

DRAWN BY THE SOUND OF *GUNFIRE*, THE POLICE *INVESTIGATED*--AND FOUND THE WAREHOUSE WAS ACTUALLY A *FRONT* FOR A *GUN-RUNNING OPERATION*!

AND JAKE HAMMER WAS *CONVICTED* OF GUN-RUNNING!

SUDDENLY, THIS IS ALL STARTING TO MAKE A GREAT DEAL OF *SENSE*!

I HAVE A FEW MORE THINGS TO *CHECK OUT*, BUT IF I'M *RIGHT*--

--I THINK I *KNOW* WHERE WE'LL FIND THE *RIDDLER*!

THEN WHAT ARE WE *WAITING* FOR?

LET'S HIT THE *ROAD*!

AT THE PRESS OF A BUTTON, A WAREHOUSE DOOR SLIDES SILENTLY *OPEN* IN A SECLUDED CUL-DE-SAC SEVERAL *BLOCKS* FROM THE LOOMING *WAYNE FOUNDATION*--

--AND THE SHINING *BATMOBILE* RACES OUT OF A HIDDEN *TUNNEL*, THEN DISAPPEARS INTO THE *NIGHT*!

A DAMP FOG ROLLING IN OFF THE BAY CASTS A HAZY PALLOR OVER GOTHAM HARBOR, AS A RUSTING FREIGHTER OF EUROPEAN REGISTRY PREPARES TO TAKE ON CARGO...

NEARBY, A SOLITARY FIGURE PACES THE DOCK IMPATIENTLY--

--MUTTERING CURSES IN A RASPING FOREIGN TONGUE!

WHERE IS HE? HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE BY NOW!

I CANNOT SAFELY WAIT MUCH LONGER!

AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO!

WH-WHO ARE YOU? YOU ARE NOT MY CONTACT!

MY DEAL WAS WITH MR. JAKE HAMMER!

HAMMER COULDN'T MAKE IT--SO HE SENT ME IN HIS PLACE!

DID YOU BRING THE MONEY?

IT IS IN MY BRIEFCASE--IN LARGE UNMARKED BILLS AS AGREED!

NOW WHERE ARE THE RIFLES I HAVE BEEN PROMISED?

THEY'RE ALREADY BEING LOADED ABOARD YOUR SHIP--INSIDE THOSE BUNDLES OF MAGAZINES!

SO YOU TELL ME--BUT HOW AM I TO KNOW YOU SPEAK THE TRUTH?

IT'S EASY ENOUGH TO PROVE, FRIEND--

Remember How Many Times You Felt Left Out

Because You Were BROKE!

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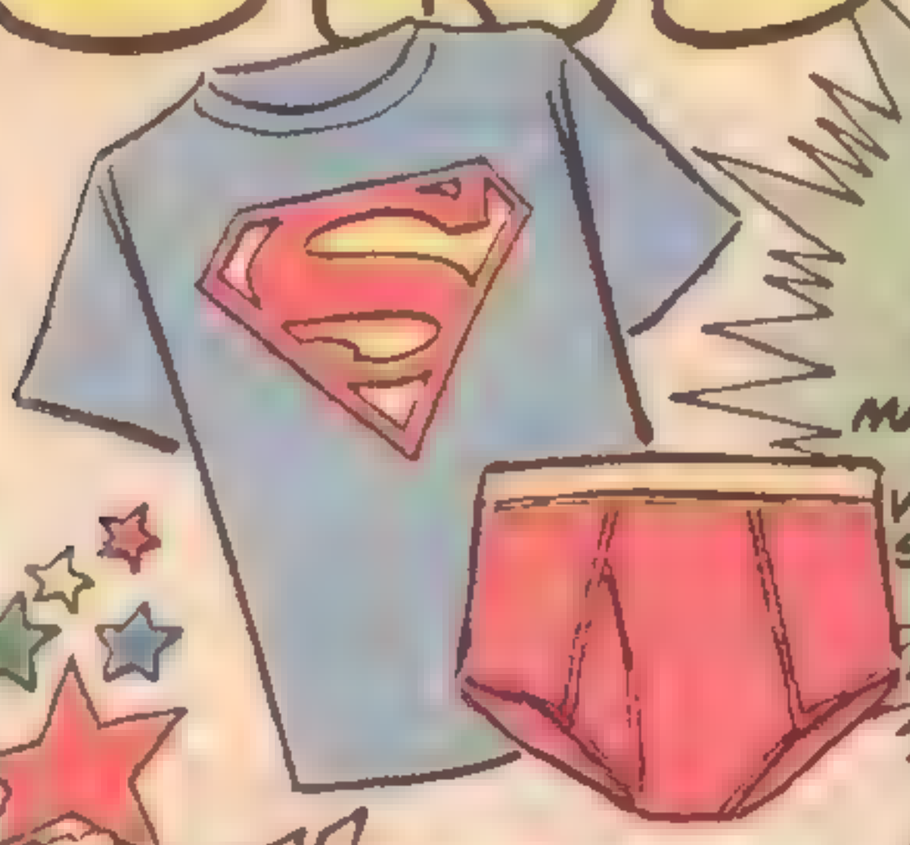

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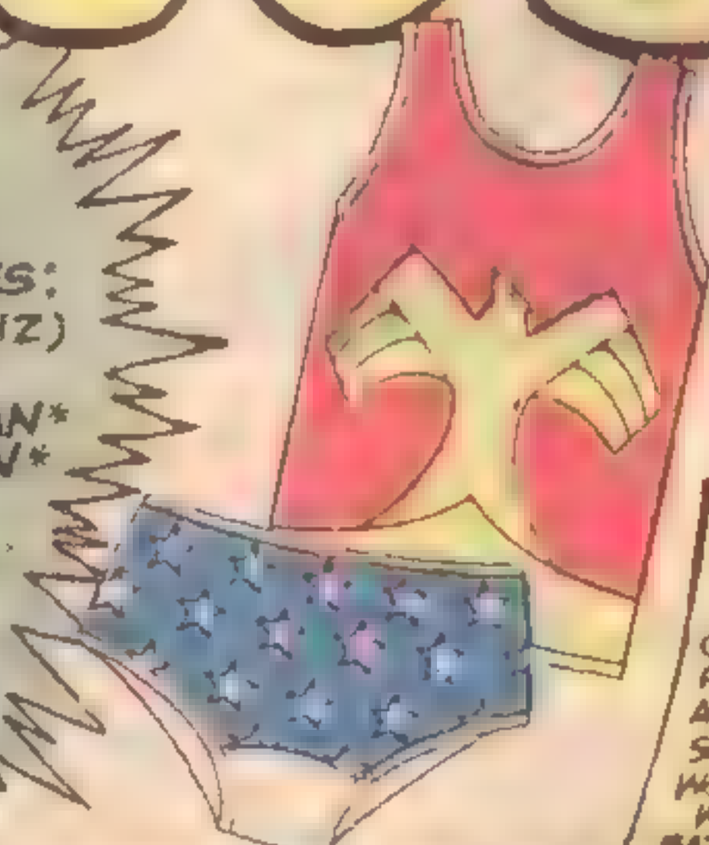

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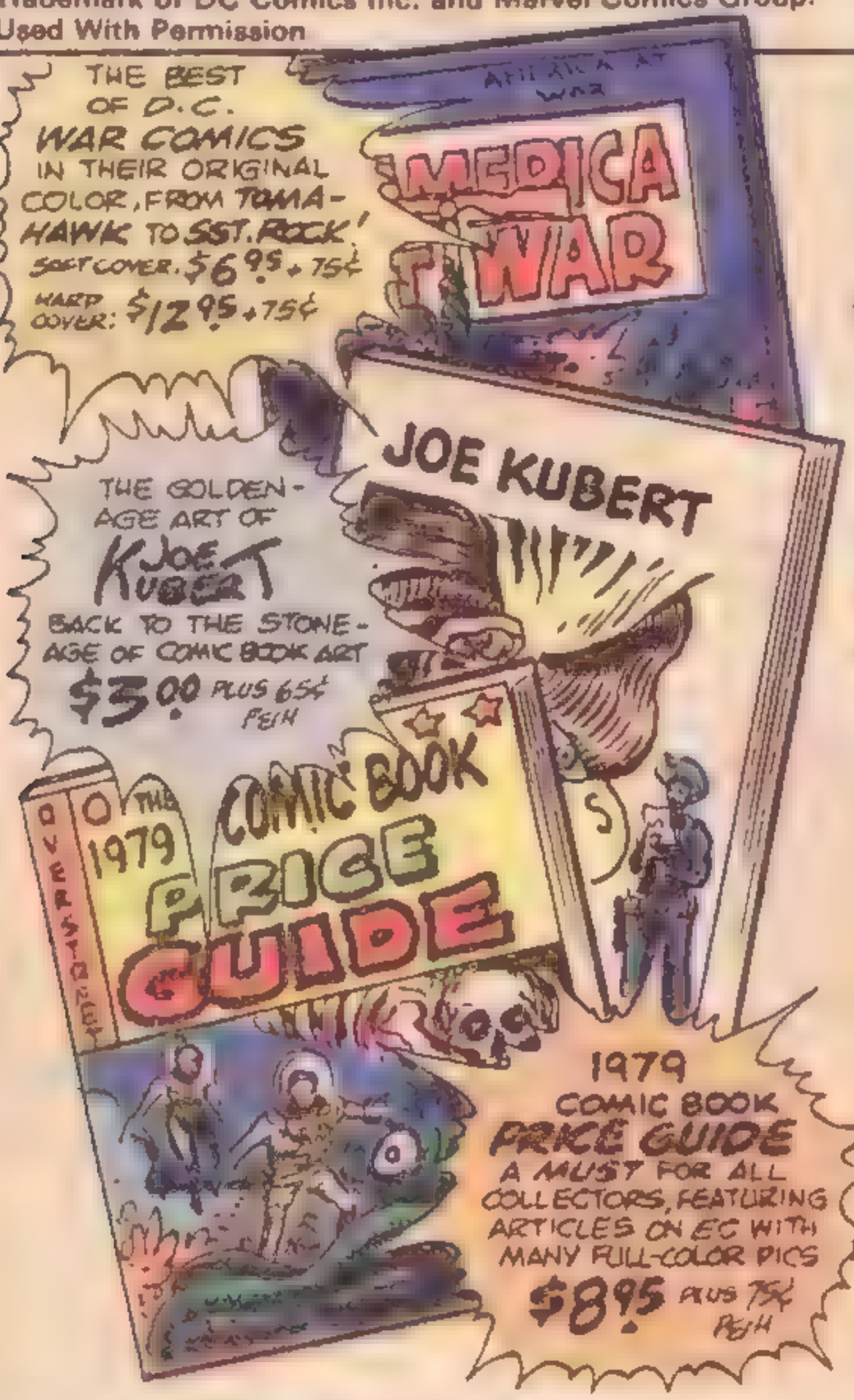

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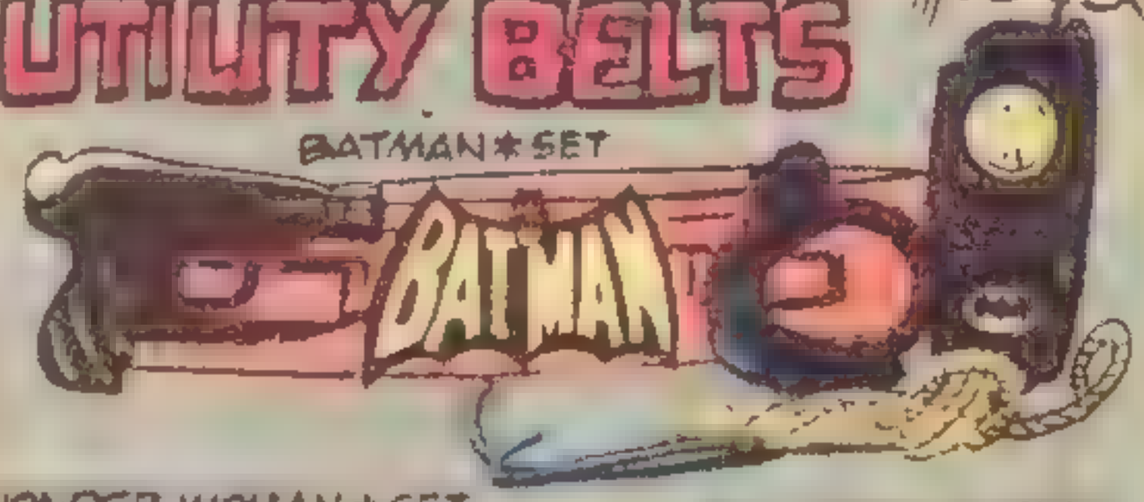

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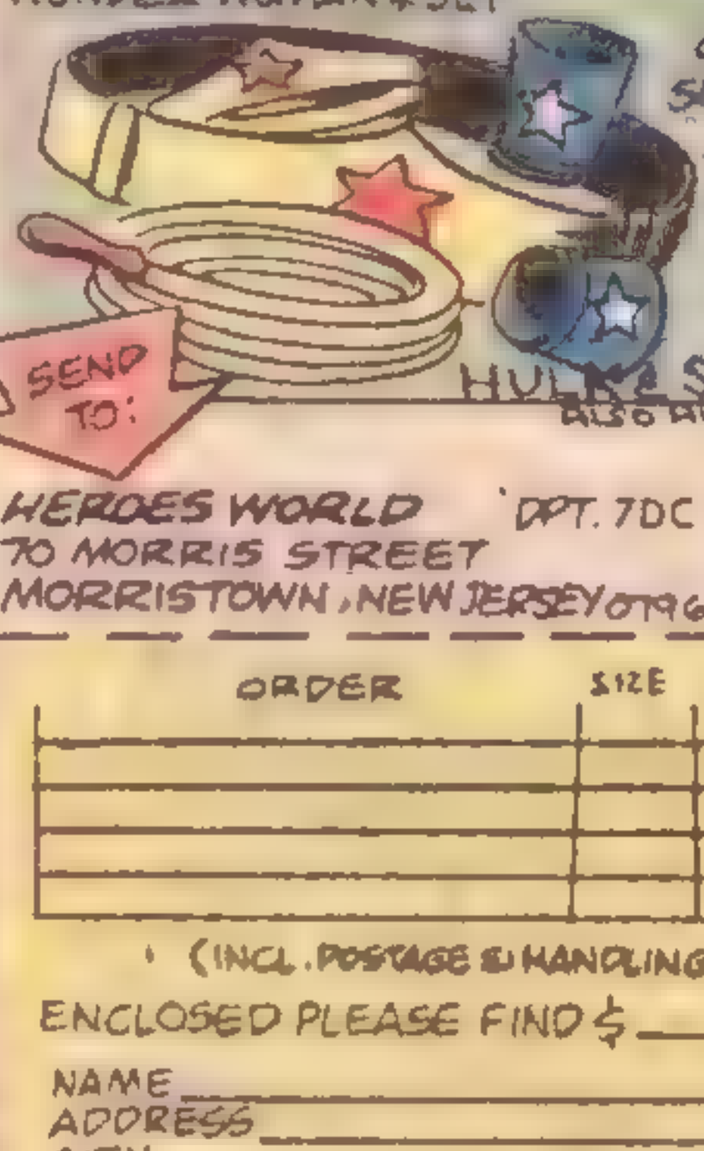

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SNAK!

--LIKE SO!!

LIKE A *RAZOR*, THE HURTLING BATARANG *SEVERS* THE HEAVY HOIST ROPE--

WHRAAM!

--SENDING THE CARGO NET *CRASHING* BACK TO THE DOCK, SCATTERING THE TIGHTLY-BOUND *BUNDLES* IT CONTAINS--

--AND THUS REVEALING THE CAREFULLY-PACKED *HIGH-POWERED RIFLES* THAT HAVE BEEN HIDDEN *WITHIN!*

I'D SAY THAT'S JUST ABOUT ENOUGH *EVIDENCE* TO PUT YOU BACK BEHIND BARS *PERMANENTLY*, RIDDLER!

BATMAN! ROBIN! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU TWO *FOUND* ME HERE--

--BUT THAT'S *ONE* RIDDLE THAT'LL HAVE TO BE ANSWERED SOME *OTHER* TIME!

NO! COME *BACK!* YOU CANNOT *LEAVE* ME HERE-- WIT[illegible] *THEM!*

DON'T WASTE YOUR *BREATH!*

THE RIDDLER ISN'T INTERESTED IN *ANYONE*--

--EXCEPT *HIMSELF!*

LOOKS LIKE YOUR PARTNER HAS *RUN OUT* ON YOU, MISTER--!

HE IS NOT MY *PARTNER*-- HE IS A *FOOL!*

JUST AS *YOU* ARE A FOOL IF YOU ATTEMPT TO *STOP* ME!

I WISH YOU HADN'T *SAID* THAT, MISTER!

'CAUSE IF THERE'S ONE THING A GUY WHO *DRESSES* LIKE I DO HATES TO BE *CALLED*--

BAM!

HUH--?!?

--IT'S *FOOLISH!!*

POW!

UUNNHH!!

I HAVE TO GIVE YOU *CREDIT*, BATMAN!

I WAS CERTAIN THAT *RIDDLE BOOK* I SENT WOULD *STUMP* YOU!

AND IT *MIGHT* HAVE--

--BUT ROBIN AND I TRACKED YOU DOWN THROUGH SHEER *DETECTIVE WORK!*

WE JUST HAD TO FIND OUT *WHERE* THE MAGAZINES WERE BEING *SHIPPED* FROM!

OOOFFF!!

--IF I HADN'T ALL BUT *IGNORED* IT!

I HATE TO SPOIL YOUR *FUN*, RIDDLER--

WHOMP!

WHUDD!

THIS IS *ONE* TIME I DON'T MIND TAKING THE *FALL*, BATMAN!

YOU KICKED ME RIGHT IN AMONG THE STOLEN *RIFLES!*

WHICH, OF COURSE, INSPIRES ANOTHER *RIDDLE!*

WHAT IS THE MOST *DANGEROUS* KIND OF *ASSASSIN?*

ONE WHO TAKES LIFE *CHEERFULLY!*

"RIGHT-- AND THAT'S PRECISELY HOW I'LL TAKE *YOURS* IF YOU TAKE ANOTHER STEP *CLOSER*, BATMAN!"

RATATATAT

BEEOW! B-

ALL RIGHT, RIDDLER, THE ADVANTAGE IS *YOURS*-- FOR THE *MOMENT!*

JUST HOLD YOUR *GROUND*, ROBIN! LET'S SEE WHAT COMES *NEXT!*

BUT WE CAN STILL *TAKE* HIM, BATMAN--!

YOUR PARTNER KNOWS *BETTER* THAN THAT, ROBIN!

I'D RATHER *NOT* KILL YOU BOTH--BUT I WON'T *HESITATE* TO IF YOU *FORCE* ME!

NOW JUST STAND RIGHT WHERE YOU *ARE*--UNTIL I'M OUT OF *SIGHT!*

BUT AS THE GRINNING RIDDLER STEPS BACK INTO THE SHELTERING *FOG*--

--HE FAILS TO NOTICE THE SECRET *SIGNAL* THAT PASSES BETWEEN THE *CAPED CRUSADERS*--

--AND THUS, HE IS CAUGHT *OFF-BALANCE* AS...

THOSE MANIACS ARE MAKING A *BREAK* FOR IT!?!

BRATATAT!

I WARNED YOU WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU TRIED ANYTHING--

--AND I MEANT IT!!

ROBIN MADE IT TO COVER--SO THE RIDDLER IS TURNING ON ME!

HAVE TO MAKE MY MOVE--NOW!!

RATATAT

AND AS THE DARKNIGHT DETECTIVE PULLS THE HASTILY-GRABBED HOIST ROPE TAUT...

WHAT THE--?!?

I'M IN A--CARGO NET?!?

I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THEY LAID A TRAP FOR ME--

--AND I WALKED RIGHT INTO IT!

SOMETIMES I WONDER WHY I EVER BOTHER!

LOOK AT HIM UP THERE--NETTED LIKE A FISH!

WHICH SUGGESTS A RATHER OBVIOUS RIDDLE!

RIDDLER, WHY ARE YOU LIKE A SPAWNING SALMON?

OH NO--NOT THAT ONE!

THE ANSWER--BECAUSE YOU BOTH GO UP THE RIVER!

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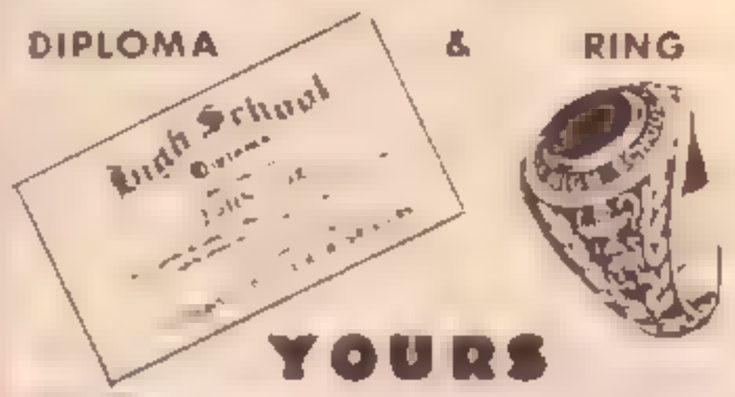

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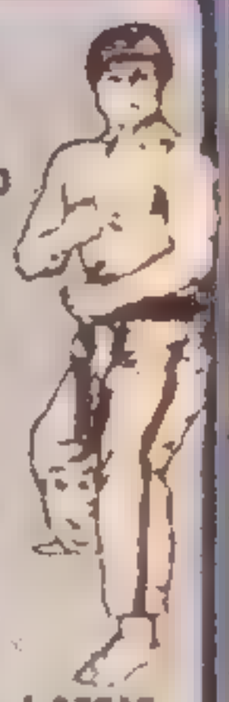

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--AN UNCOMFORTABLE *LUCIUS FOX* IS LED ALONG A CARPETED CORRIDOR BY A SMILING *KARLYLE KRUGERRAND*...

MY EMPLOYER WAS MOST *PLEASED* THAT YOU FINALLY AGREED TO *MEET* WITH HIM, MISTER FOX.

HE IS *WAITING* FOR YOU --IN HIS PRIVATE *OFFICE!*

WELL, THIS *IS* IT, LUCIUS --STRAIGHT INTO THE *LION'S DEN!*

I DON'T KNOW WHY I DIDN'T *REFUSE* THE MAN'S INVITATION *OUTRIGHT!* WHAT DID I THINK I'D *ACCOMPLISH* ON BRUCE WAYNE'S BEHALF BY...?

PLEASE *DO COME IN*, SIR!

EH?

I AM GREATLY *GRATIFIED* TO FINALLY MAKE YOUR *ACQUAINTANCE*, MISTER FOX!

I AM-- **GREGORIAN FALSTAFF!**

AND *I* AM IN *DEEP TROUBLE!*

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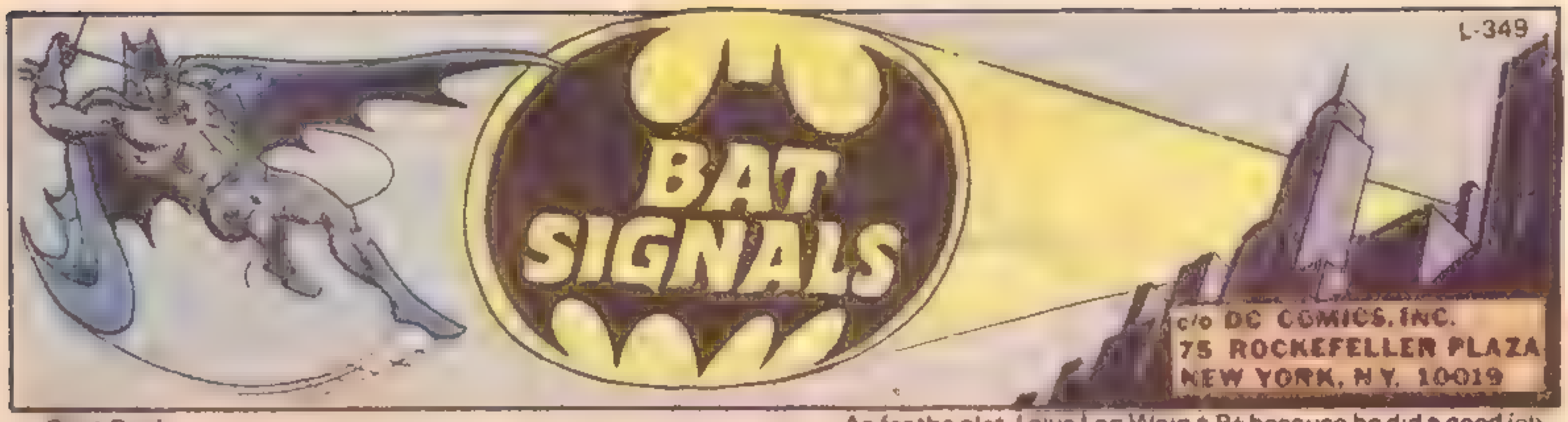
"MY CITY BURNS AT BOTH ENDS... IT WILL NOT LAST THE NIGHT!"

ON SALE SEPTEMBER 13th



Dear Paul,

I had reservations when you announced that this magazine would feature a villain each and every issue. I'm the kind of reader who likes a little change in format now and then. A steady diet of "stop this month's villain" would seem like a rather humdrum affair.

After some thought, however, and a look at the last three issues, I've revised my opinion. This type of format is just what this mag needs. For many years now, this book has been slightly below the other *Batman*-starring books in terms of quality. *DETECTIVE* was setting all kinds of precedents with the Englehart/Rogers/Austin team; *BRAVE AND BOLD* had us wondering who next issue's co-star would be. But *BATMAN*, which should have been the top of the line, kept stumbling, nobody seemed too sure of what direction the mag should take. The constant musical chairs job with writers and artists certainly didn't help matters.

Now, in the space of three issues, you've established a system. I'm not sure it's the right one yet, but I'm willing to give it time. The Wein/Novick team was a step in the right direction as well. Because *Batman* appears in so many other books, a steady diet of villains in this one will probably be a refreshing change of pace. *DETECTIVE* seems to have modeled itself into a mystery type mag (appropriately enough), so why not try a different approach here. Like I said, I'm not completely converted yet, but give me time.

The Calendar Man, one of the many hackneyed villains of *Batman's* camp era, was given a nice face-lift in #312. A very clever premise, along with another glimpse of *Batman's* ever-expanding supporting cast, made for a very entertaining issue.

Simonson, who produced some of the worst art I've ever seen on the late, lamented *Metal Men*, was back to his high standards. The Darknight Detective was just that—very dark and very atmospheric. Len Wein is finally writing the way he has been known to write: exciting, action-packed sagas with no skimping on characterization. He lacked both these qualities while working for the competition.

In short, keep this format for the time being. It just may work!

Mike Bates
3414 Lexington
Pontiac, MI 48054

We are indeed concentrating on establishing a direction and style for BATMAN, here in his own magazine, and hope the results are beginning to show. And a direction doesn't mean sameness, at least not if we can help it. The most recent two adventures with Robin were a deliberate attempt to break the trend while keeping the general direction of the series, and next issue we'll all feel August's heat when "My City Burns At Both Ends...It Will Not Last The Night!"—PL.

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Dear Editor,

BATMAN 312 had its good points and its bad points. Despite all of this it was very good and better than I expected.

To start, the cover was excellent. Though I complained about it when I saw it in the letter section of the issue before, now that I have seen it close up it reminds me of an old look *BATMAN* cover. The fact that it had no word balloons helped it a lot. I would have preferred it though if you had put the title in a box instead of the words that tell about the story. As for the art of the cover I think, seeing it close up, that Simonson and Giordano outdid themselves. They helped bring anticipation for reading the story. By the way, can't you do something about the price box in the lower left hand corner? It takes away from a fine cover.

As for the plot, I give Len Wein a B+ because he did a good job thinking up the different weapons and the idea of having a different costume for each day of the week. It was a change of pace from what I expected (a costume for each season). By the way who designed the costumes? The use of the Whirly-Bat and the different vehicles and weapons of the Calender Man were also good. I like the use of the mystery villain who appeared throughout the issue. I kind of figured it was Two-Face since half of him was always left out or not shown. Len seems to be improving his stories.

As for the art, I didn't even miss Novick. Simonson and Giordano seemed to do all right by themselves. The costumes looked great and I think in terms of design and uniqueness of weapon that Saturday's costume, though only in one panel, was the best. Monday's was second best and Thursday's third best. I thought page 14, panel 2 looked great showing all black except for *Batman's* scowling face and hand. The last panel of the story featuring Two-Face also looked great. By the way, didn't the Calendar Man have black hair?

In conclusion, I would like to say that I hope *Batman's* other old villains can be handled this well and better!!!

Shawn Dawson
123 Bucket Lane
Levittown, NY 11756

Walt's promising to do another BATMAN fill-in some time soon, and who knows, it might just come up around the end of this year, when we plan to bring back the Batman's #1 foe—*The Joker!—PL*

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Dear Editor:

"A Crime a Day..." was an excellent *Batman* story. The return of the Calendar Man was great, especially since his return was handled in such a mature manner. His earlier appearances were childish at best. Handled in this manner, I will look forward to future appearances by this villain. Not to slight Len, but it was definitely the art which made this story great. Simonson's style is perfect for the *Batman*, and his different costumes for the Calender Man were fantastic. He came up with some dynamite apparel. I couldn't make up my mind which was the best. Most of them reminded me of Man-hunter's costume, which I really liked.

The plot was also very well done. I especially liked the way that the *Batman* was at bay trying to figure what caper the villain would try to pull off; excellent. But I must insist that when Mr. Fox first mentioned the Sun express, I knew that that was where the Calendar Man would strike, and not where Commissioner Gorden and his men would be. The idea that *Batman* had to remain in bed and let the villain rob at will was very nice. The dramatic capture at the end was stimulating in both words in picture, in that it displayed the pent-up frustration of *Batman* in not being able to stop the Calendar Man earlier and at last the triumph of success. A very good all-around story.

Kent A. Phenis
1082 Sherwood Court, #803
Greenwood, IN 46142

And very good mail around this month, accounting for the absence of any argumentative comments in this lettercolumn. Speaking of mail, we'd like to once more thank all the readers who responded to #311's editorial, since the stack of your letters is now close to 200 pages high. Your vote of confidence and suggestions were both appreciated.—Paul Levitz

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THE DC FEATURE PAGE

F-107

Q: My brother says that about 15 years ago, *Superman* married Lois Lane and was later killed by Lex Luther. How can *Supes* still be around if this is true?—Ronnie Conaway. *A*: Both events took place in Imaginary Stories, a series which often appeared in the 1960's.

Q: When did *Superman* first battle *Bizarro* and *Brainiac*?—Chris Knight. *A*: *Bizarro* first appeared in *ACTION* #254; *Brainiac* in *ACTION* #242.

Q: How does *The Flash* travel through time?—John T. O'Hara. *A*: Bt using his cosmic treadmill, which enables him to race faster than the speed of light.

Q: Is it possible for some fans to get together and pool their money, buy ad space in your comics and have you fill it with stories instead of ads?—Denny Woodworld. *A*: Sure, but it would cost a lot more than it would be worth to you. (In fact, it would probably be cheaper to hire an artist and writer to produce stories especially for you!)

Q: Will the *GREEN LANTERN/GREEN ARROW* paperbacks be re-released?—Wade Moore. *A*: Not that we know of.

Q: When did *Green Arrow* first team up with *Batman*?—Jody Sullivan. *A*: In *BRAVE & BOLD* #71.

Q: Will there ever be a *Justice League* coloring book?—Thomas Szadkowski. *A*: Unless I'm mistaken, there have been some, but they've been done as *Super Friends* coloring books.

Q: When is *STRANGE ADVENTURES* coming back?—Patrick Bohlander. *A*: It isn't, but don't miss its "heir", *TIME WARP*, now on sale!

Q: If we have stories or ideas for *DC* characters, who should we send them to?—John Peluso. *A*: The editor of the magazine you've got ideas for.

Q: What animals are in the *Legion of Super-Pets*?—Tim Vandewalle. *A*: Krypto the Superdog, Streaky the Supercat, Beppo the Supermonkey, Comet the Superhorse, and Proty II the ameboid.

Q: When did *Aqueman* find that he had to have contact with water at least once an hour. Didn't he grow up on land?—Ed Abdale. *A*: He grew up on a beach: his father was a lighthouse keeper. The water requirement has been with him all his life.

Q: What is that little box of lines and numbers on your covers?—Brian D. Miller. *A*: That's the Universal Product Code which can be used by computers for sales, inventory, etc. The UPC appears on virtually everything you buy these days.

Q: Will Dick Grayson ever graduate from Hudson University?—Dawn Ayers. *A*: Considering it took Dick thirty years to get through high school, we wouldn't start planning any graduation parties!

dc profiles number 49

* tatjana * wood

DC Vice-President for Production Jack Adler calls her "a thorough professional who knows her business...one of the easiest and yet one of the toughest people to work with." Assistant Production Manager for Color Tony Tollin notes that she's "one of our more cultured people...she plays Baroque music on the recorder and she's an opera buff."

They're talking about *DC* colorist Tatjana Wood. Tatjana is the one who colors every cover of every comic book that DC publishes these days. She's one of the most respected colorists in the business and she has some very definite ideas about how a cover should look.

"I want the color to 'bounce' off the characters," she says, "so that it will catch the reader's eye. I try to bring out the main elements and kill the unimportant details. That gives you impact."

Tatjana Wood was born in Darmstadt, Germany, a small town south of Frankfurt, and grew up in Holland during World War II. She came to the U.S. in 1947 and settled in New York City and, she adds emphatically, "I *like* New York!"

Tatjana's innate sense of color and design is not limited to comic books, however. She is also a professional dressmaker and used to make costumes for the theatre. But what she calls her "soul food" is her tapestry work.

In her home, Tatjana has a huge loom which she uses to weave the tapestries she designs. Jack Adler calls them "absolutely gorgeous...exquisite...they deserve to hang in a museum!" Each one, says Tatjana, "takes an *enormous* amount of time. But I love it. I glow when I sit behind the loom."

In late 1968, Tatjana showed some samples of her coloring to Joe Orlando, but nothing came of it right away. Then, in 1969, *DC* called to ask if she would do some romance stories. Eventually, she got a *Superman* story, but the breakthrough she remembers with the most relish was when she finally convinced an editor to let her color a war story. "He was leery of letting a female color a war story," she recalls, "but he liked it when I turned it in." Today, Tatjana still does an occasional war story in addition to her covers.

"I'm slow but careful," she says frankly. "I take too much time to do the work." But, of course, it's that extra care, that special piece of herself that she puts into every assignment, that makes Tatjana Wood one of the foremost colorists in comic books today.

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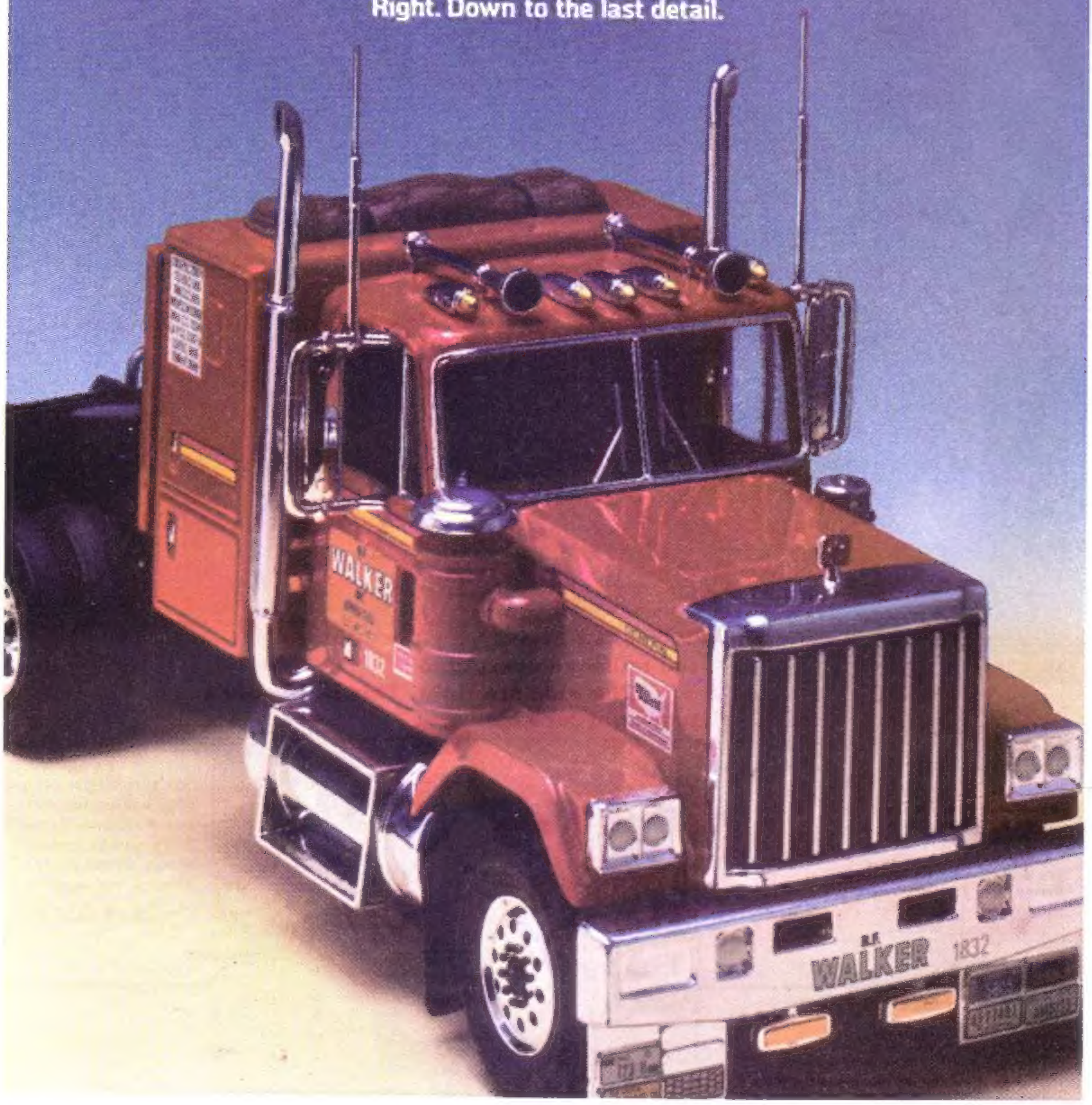

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